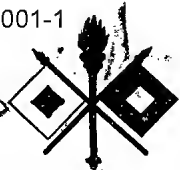


THE WHITE HOUSE

OUTGOING MESSAGE

file



WHASA

OPERATION IMMEDIATE
PRECEDENCE

CLASSIFICATION

30 MAY 62
DATE

FROM:

TO:

INFO:

CITE: _____

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--30 MAY 1962

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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--30 MAY 1962

1. EAST-WEST BERLIN:

A. TENSION ALONG THE WALL, ALREADY HIGH AS A RESULT OF SHOOTINGS AND EXPLOSIONS THAT HAVE ATTENDED ATTEMPTS BY EAST GERMANS TO ESCAPE TO WEST BERLIN DURING THE PAST WEEK, IS LIKELY TO GO EVEN HIGHER. PASSIONS OVER THE REFUGEE PROBLEM ARE BEING WHIPPED UP ON BOTH SIDES BY SHRILL PROPAGANDA EXCHANGES. MAYOR BRANDT HAS AUTHORIZED HIS MEN TO USE THEIR GUNS IF NECESSARY TO ASSIST ESCAPEES, AND THE EAST BERLIN SECURITY FORCES SEEM TO BE MORE TRIGGER-HAPPY THAN USUAL AND HAVE BEEN HEAVILY REINFORCED ALONG THE ENTIRE WALL.

B. MORE CLASHES BETWEEN THE OPPOSING POLICE FORCES SEEM INEVITABLE. THE EAST GERMANS SEEM INTENT ON STEMMING THE FLOW OF ESCAPEES WHICH IS STILL AVERAGING ABOUT 50-60 A WEEK. THEY MAY EVEN BE SEEKING AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO AN ESCAPEE INCIDENT WITH ENOUGH FORCE TO TORPEDO MAYOR BRANDT'S PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED POLICY OF ACTIVE ASSISTANCE TO ESCAPEES. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE SO FAR MADE NO MOVE TO INTERVENE, SUGGESTING THAT FOR THE MOMENT THEY DO NOT FEEL THAT MATTERS ARE ABOUT TO GET OUT-OF-HAND.

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2. LAOS:

A. PHOUMI AND BOUN OUM ARE DUE BACK IN VIENTIANE TODAY, BUT PROSPECTS FOR THE CONVOCAION OF A THREE PRINCES MEETING HAVE NOT BRIGHTENED PERCEPTIBLY. SOUVANNA HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO THE KING'S OFFER OF A PRELIMINARY AUDIENCE, AND PATHET LAO - VIET MINH FORCES THIS MORNING RESUMED THEIR ATTACK ON BAN HOU EI SAI.

B. LATEST PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT BAN HOU EI SAI HAS NOW BEEN ENTIRELY EVACUATED. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED WORD THAT ENEMY FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED THE TOWN.

✓ C. LATE PRESS REPORTS ANNOUNCE THE RESCUE BY HELICOPTER OF THE TWO MISSING US PERSONNEL. 2-

D. WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS SHOWING THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS IN NORTHERN LAOS ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP PRO-SOUVANNA FORCES FROM SHOWING THE FLAG IN THE NAM THA AREA. IN ONE INSTANCE, THEY THREATENED TO WIPE OUT A CONTINGENT OF KONG LE TROOPS IF IT "DID NOT MOVE BACK," SAYING THAT THEY (THE VIETNAMESE) HAD LIBERATED NAM THA AND DID NOT NEED ANY HELP. [REDACTED]

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3. EEC DEVELOPMENTS:

A. A CUBAN REQUEST FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE EEC IS ON ICE WHILE MEMBERS MULL OVER THE PROS AND CONS OF KEEPING HAVANA AT ARMS LENGTH, OR OF ENCOURAGING IT TO DEVELOP CLOSER TIES WITH THE FREE WORLD. US VIEWS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED. [REDACTED]

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B. ANOTHER MINISTERIAL SESSION GOT UNDER WAY IN BRUSSELS YESTERDAY TO CONSIDER BRITAIN'S ACCESSION TO THE ORGANIZATION, WITH SIGNS THAT BOTH SIDES ARE DISPOSED TO GIVE A LITTLE ON COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCE AND TARIFF ISSUES. [REDACTED]

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4. USSR-CUBA:

A LARGE SOVIET DELEGATION, HEADED BY A HIGH-RANKING PARTY FUNCTIONARY, ARRIVED IN HAVANA ON MONDAY. [REDACTED]

MOSCOW IS UPSET BY CASTRO'S TREATMENT OF OLD-LINE COMMUNISTS AND BY HIS INABILITY TO SET HIS ECONOMIC HOUSE IN ORDER, WE SUSPECT THAT MOSCOW HAS DECIDED IT WAS TIME FOR A SEARCHING REVIEW OF THE SOVIET PROGRAM IN CUBA. THE RECALL YESTERDAY OF THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR MAY BE ANOTHER SIGN OF THE USSR'S DISPLEASURE AND INTENT TO TIGHTEN ITS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REINS. [REDACTED]

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5. INDONESIA - WEST NEW GUINEA:

A. A SENIOR INDONESIAN ARMY OFFICER CLAIMS THAT INDONESIAN FORCES HAVE ESTABLISHED A FIRM FOOTHOLD IN WEST NEW GUINEA WHICH HE WAS CONFIDENT WOULD BE STEADILY EXPANDED. HE NOTED, INCIDENTALLY, THAT THE DUTCH TROOPS ENGAGED IN THE CURRENT FIGHTING WERE GREENHORNS AT JUNGLE WARFARE AS COMPARED TO THE SEASONED GUERRILLA FIGHTERS THAT THE INDONESIANS HAVE HAD TO CONTEND WITH IN THE PAST.

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B. MEANWHILE, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE INDONESIANS MAY SOON BEGIN AERIAL BOMBARDMENT OF DUTCH POSITIONS ON WEST NEW GUINEA. THE INDONESIANS ARE MOVING JET BOMBERS TO ADVANCE BASES IN EAST INDONESIA, AND BOMBS FOR THEIR AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN ORDERED FROM DJAKARTA AS AN "URGENT REQUIREMENT." IF THE INDONESIANS RESORT TO BOMBING, THE DUTCH WILL RETALIATE.

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6. NOTES:

A. UNDERGROUND COMMUNISTS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE REPORTEDLY SET TO TOUCH OFF A WAVE OF SABOTAGE. WE THINK THEIR PLANS EXCEED THEIR CAPABILITIES, BUT THEY PROBABLY CAN CAUSE SOME DAMAGE.

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C. IN THE CONGO, ADOULA AND TSHOMBE ARE REPORTED TO HAVE ACCEPTED THE GARDINER PLAN AS THE BASIS FOR ENDING THE KATANGAN SECESSION.

[REDACTED] HOWEVER, WE [REDACTED] *are not yet sure*

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[REDACTED] THAT BOTH SIDES INTEND TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT IN GOOD FAITH. [REDACTED]

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D. WE NOW HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE USSR EARLY THIS MONTH BEGAN SUPPLYING MIG-21'S TO THE EAST GERMAN AIR FORCE. [REDACTED]

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E. A SUDANESE MILITARY MISSION NOW IN MOSCOW HAS ASKED [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] REGARDING THE USEFULNESS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT [REDACTED] PRESUMABLY IN ANTICIPATION OF SUBMITTING

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ITS OWN SHOPPING LIST TO THE SOVIETS. WE ARE UNABLE TO ESTIMATE AT THIS JUNCTURE WHAT EFFECT, IF ANY, NEGOTIATIONS ON AN ARMS DEAL WOULD HAVE ON THE STILL-PENDING AIRLINES AGREEMENTS, BUT IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE SUDANESE ARE BENT ON ESTABLISHING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH THE USSR. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~